

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 Claim 1 (currently amended): Electronic equipment having a plurality of electronic units
2 working in cooperation comprising:

3 a first electronic unit having a first version data of said first electronic unit itself, ~~and first~~
4 ~~support version data of an opposite second electronic unit being supported by said first electronic~~
5 ~~unit; and~~

6 [[the]] a second electronic unit having a second version data of said second electronic unit
7 itself, and a second support version data of ~~the opposite~~ said first electronic unit being supported by
8 said second electronic unit, said first electronic unit having first support version data of said second
9 electronic unit being supported by said first electronic unit,

10 wherein at least ~~either~~ one of said first electronic unit and said second electronic unit
11 ~~compares~~ performs a first comparison of the magnitude of said first version data and said second
12 support version data, ~~compares~~ performs a second comparison of the magnitude of said second
13 version data and said first support version data and verifies the compatibility between said ~~plurality~~
14 of first and second electronic units ~~from a great and small relationship~~ according to the both
15 ~~compared~~ results of the first and second comparisons.

1 Claim 2 (currently amended): The electronic equipment according to claim 1 wherein
2 [[said]] each one of said plurality of electronic units comprises:
3 a memory for storing control program; and
4 a processor for executing said control program, and wherein said version data comprises the
5 version data of said control program.

1 Claim 3 (currently amended): The electronic equipment according to claim 1 wherein
2 [[said]] either one of said first and second electronic [[unit]] units verifies the compatibility after
3 either electronic unit of said first electronic unit or said second electronic unit is substituted.

1 Claim 4 (currently amended): The electronic equipment according to claim 1 wherein said
2 first and second support version data [[comprises]] comprise a newest support version data.

1 Claim 5 (original): The electronic equipment according to claim 1 wherein said plurality
2 of electronic units are constituted by printer controller units.

1 Claim 6 (currently amended): The electronic equipment according to claim 2 wherein
2 [[said]] either one of said first and second electronic [[unit]] units changes said version of the
3 control program when ~~verified as incompatibility is verified~~, to automatically shift to a proper
4 version ~~having the~~ providing compatibility.

1 Claim 7 (currently amended): The electronic equipment according to claim 6 wherein
2 [[said]] either one of said first and second electronic [[unit]] units controls a valid or invalid of a
3 difference information in the control program comprised an old control program and said difference
4 information between the old control program to change said version of said control program.

1 Claim 8 (currently amended): The electronic equipment according to claim 6 wherein ~~each~~
2 of said ~~plurality of~~ first electronic ~~units comprises:~~ unit includes a first memory for storing a first
3 control program[[;]] and includes a first processor for executing said first control program, wherein
4 said second electronic unit includes a second memory for storing a second control program and
5 includes a second processor for executing said second control program, wherein [[said]] either one
6 of said first and second electronic [[unit]] units verifies the compatibility using said version data of
7 said control programs after said control program version is changed to maintain the compatibility
8 between said control programs.

1 Claim 9 (currently amended): The electronic equipment according to claim 2 wherein
2 [[said]] either one of said first and second electronic [[unit]] units verifies the compatibility when
3 installing said control program of either one electronic unit.

1 Claim 10 (currently amended): [[An]] A first electronic unit working in cooperation with
2 the ~~opposite~~ a second electronic unit, said first electronic unit having compatibility verification data

3 for verifying the compatibility with said ~~opposite~~ second electronic unit, said compatibility
4 verification data comprising:

5 a support version data of said ~~opposite~~ second electronic unit being supported by said first
6 electronic unit itself, to be compared with a version data of said ~~opposite~~ second electronic unit; and

7 a version data of said first electronic unit itself being supported by said ~~opposite~~ second
8 electronic unit.

1 Claim 11 (currently amended): A method for verifying [[the]] a compatibility in electronic
2 equipment having a plurality of electronic units working in cooperation, said method comprising the
3 steps of:

4 ~~comparing~~ performing a first comparison of a first version data of one electronic unit among
5 said plurality of electronic units with a second support version data of said electronic unit being
6 supported by another electronic unit;

7 ~~comparing~~ performing a second comparison of a second version data of the other electronic
8 unit with a first support version data of the other electronic unit being supported by said electronic
9 unit; and

10 verifying the compatibility among said plurality of electronic units using ~~said compared~~
11 results of said first and second comparisons.

1 Claim 12 (currently amended): The method for verifying the compatibility according to
2 claim 11 wherein said first version data and first support version data ~~comprises~~ comprise the version
3 data of a control program of said one electronic unit, and
4 said second version data and second support version data ~~comprises~~ comprise version data
5 of a control program of said other electronic unit.

1 Claim 13 (currently amended): The method for verifying the compatibility according to
2 claim 11 wherein said compatibility verification is performed after ~~either one electronic unit~~ of
3 said first electronic unit or said second electronic unit is substituted.

1 Claim 14 (currently amended): The method for verifying the compatibility according to
2 claim 11 wherein said first and second support version data ~~comprises~~ comprise a newest support
3 version data.

1 Claim 15 (original): The method for verifying the compatibility according to claim 11
2 wherein said plurality of electronic units are constituted by printer controller units.

1 Claim 16 (currently amended): The method for verifying the compatibility according to
2 claim 12 , further comprising a step of changing said version of the control program when ~~verified~~
3 as incompatibility is verified, to automatically shift to a proper version ~~having the~~ providing

4 compatibility.

1 Claim 17 (original): The method for verifying the compatibility according to claim 12
2 wherein said compatibility verification is performed on installing a control program of either one
3 of the plurality of electronic units.

1 Claim 18 (currently amended): The method for verifying the compatibility in electronic
2 equipment according to claim 16 further comprising the step of:

3 re-verifying the compatibility using said version data of said control programs after changing
4 a version of one of said control ~~program~~ programs to be executed by a processor in one of said
5 electronic ~~[[unit]]~~ units.

1 Claim 19 (currently amended): The method for verifying the compatibility according to
2 claim 17 wherein ~~[[said]]~~ a changing step comprises a step of changing a version of said control
3 program being constituted by an older version of said control program and differential information
4 between said versions, by controlling to make said differential information either valid or invalid.

1 Claim 20 (new): A method of detecting compatibility among a first electronic unit and a
2 second electronic unit, the method comprising:

3 performing a first comparison of a magnitude of first data stored in the first electronic unit

4 and a magnitude of second data stored in the second electronic unit;

5 when a result of the first comparison indicates that the magnitude of the second data is
6 smaller than the magnitude of the first data, displaying an error indicating incompatibility;

7 when the result of the first comparison indicates that the magnitude of the second data is
8 larger than the magnitude of the first data, performing a second comparison of a magnitude of third
9 data stored in the first electronic unit and a magnitude of fourth data stored in the second electronic
10 unit;

11 when a result of the second comparison indicates that the magnitude of the third data is
12 smaller than the magnitude of the fourth data, displaying the error indicating incompatibility; and

13 when the result of the second comparison indicates that the magnitude of the third data is
14 larger than the magnitude of the fourth data, starting control programs of the first and second
15 electronic units.

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